

STATE OF MARYLAND

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MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

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March 28, 2008

Dear Payer Representative:

The data submission for 2007 is due to the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) by June 30, 2008. The 2007 Medical Care Data Base (MCDB) Submission Manual is posted on the Commission's website at <http://mhcc.maryland.gov/payercompliance/index.html>. The MHCC has made a number of minor changes for the 2007 submission. We have eliminated several of the summary tables that submitters were required to provide with the data submission. I encourage you to carefully read "Section I – Introduction" of the manual.

I want to express the MHCC's appreciation for submitting data for the Medical Care Data Base. The MHCC understands that your company dedicates considerable resources to this effort and we extend our thanks.

The MCDB system has become increasingly important as a tool for examining spending growth and access to care issues. In part this is due to the improving quality of the data provided by the carriers. Last year four payers passed all the acceptance edits established by MHCC and most payers showed substantial improvement over the previous year.

The Maryland General Assembly has recognized the importance of the MCDB, as well as its current limitations. Law passed in 2007 gives MHCC the authority to collect enrollment, insurance design information, and data on hospital facility claims (UB-92). The MHCC will be modifying its regulations to include an expanded data collection that will be phased in beginning with the data submission for 2008 (to be submitted in 2009). Information on these changes will be distributed to payers in June for comment.

Thank you for your time and cooperation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Larry Monroe at (410) 764-3390 or via e-mail at lmunroe@mhcc.state.md.us.

Sincerely,

Ben Steffen
Deputy Director
Center for Analysis and Information Services

